

# Dental Examination: How much is enough?

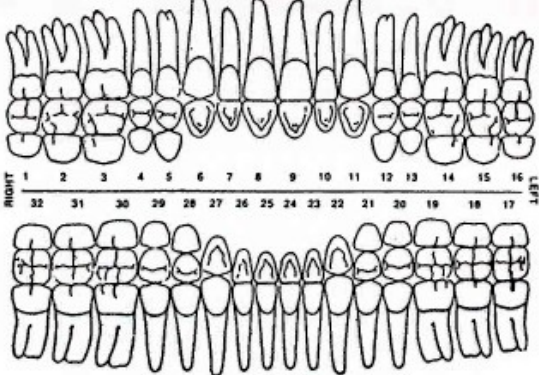
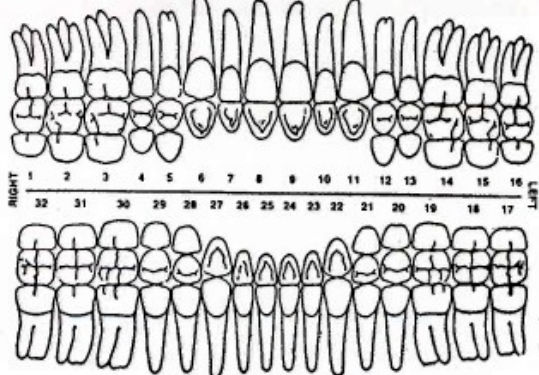
David Moss, DDS, MPH  
COL, USA

# Current Policy

- All service members required to have an annual dental examination
  - Visual/tactile exam of all tooth surfaces
  - Periodontal probing exam
  - Radiographs, as needed
- Treatment plan—recorded in dental treatment record (DTR)

# Dental Treatment Record

- Planned treatment charted in pencil
- As treatment is completed planned treatment is erased and charted in ink
- No explicit diagnoses are recorded

SECTION II. CHRONOLOGICAL D OF DENTAL CARE					PAGE: _____
<b>8. RESTORATIONS AND TREATMENTS (Completed during service)</b>			<b>9. SUBSEQUENT DISEASES AND ABNORMALITIES</b>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">A B C D E F G H I J</div>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">T S R Q P O N M L K</div>			<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">A B C D E F G H I J</div>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">T S R Q P O N M L K</div>		
REMARKS  			REMARKS  		
<b>10. SERVICES PROVIDED</b>					
DATE	SYMPTOMS, DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, PROVIDER, TREATMENT FACILITY (Sign each entry)				CLASS
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <b>PERIODIC ORAL EVALUATION</b>            BP ____/____ PSR            BWX ____ PAX ____ PANX ____            SOFT TISSUE WNL: Yes / No            CARIES RISK: Low Mod High            TOBACCO: No Smoke Chew Both         </div>				

# Dental Fitness Classifications (DFC)

- DFC 1 – No treatment required (worldwide deployable)
- DFC 2 – Need for non urgent routine treatment. Not expected to cause a dental emergency in 12 months (worldwide deployable)
- DFC 3 – Dental condition that will likely cause a dental emergency within 12 months (non deployable)
- DFC 4 – No examination documented within the past 12 months (non deployable)

# Benefits of Annual Exam

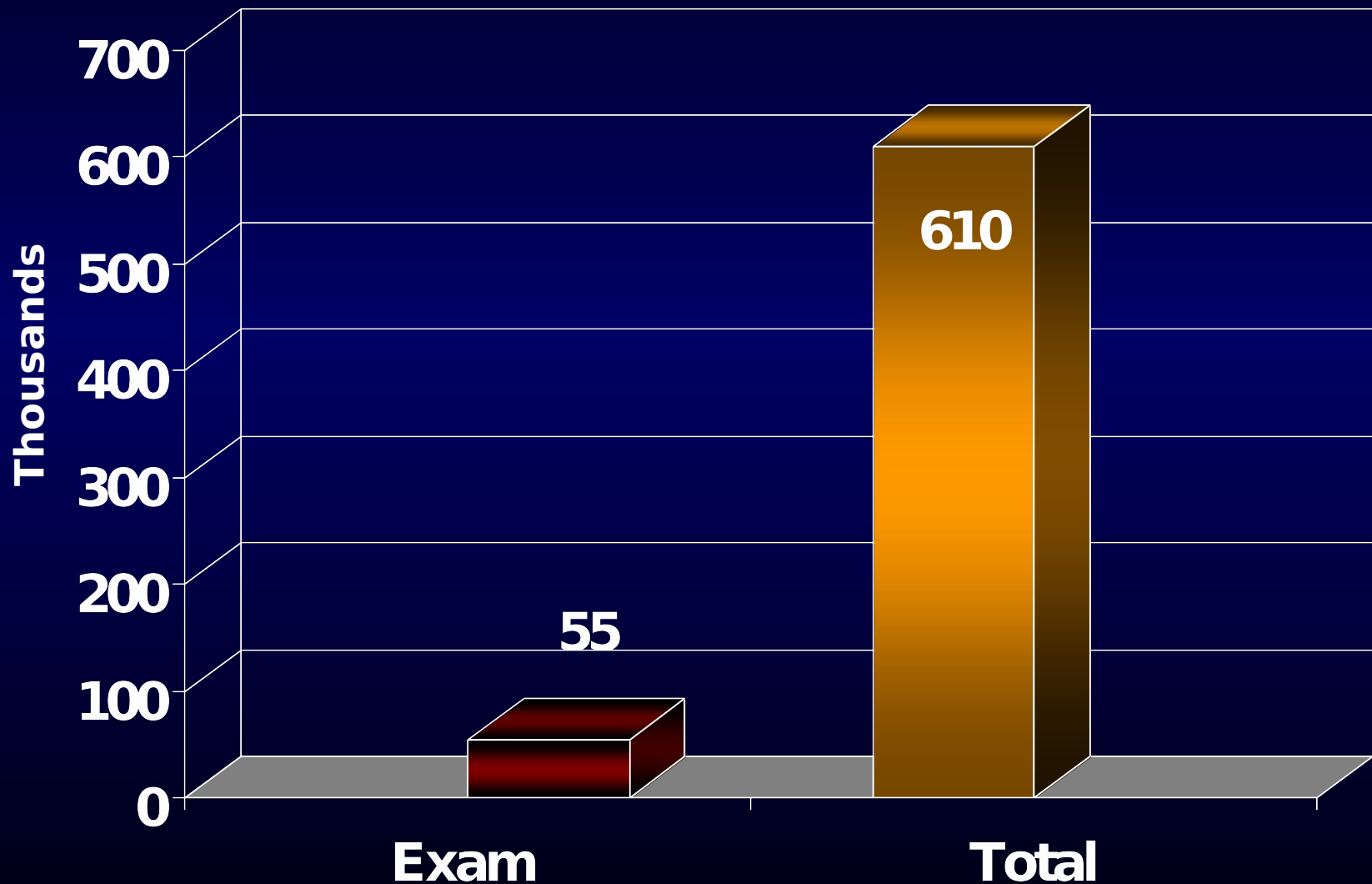
- Document current dental treatment needs
- Oral cancer screening
- Increase Soldier's health awareness
- Promote healthy lifestyle practices

# Why is This Important ?

- Dual mission of the Army Dental Care system
  - Health of the individual
  - Readiness of the force
- Cost/efficiencies
- Leveraging new data systems

# Dental Procedures

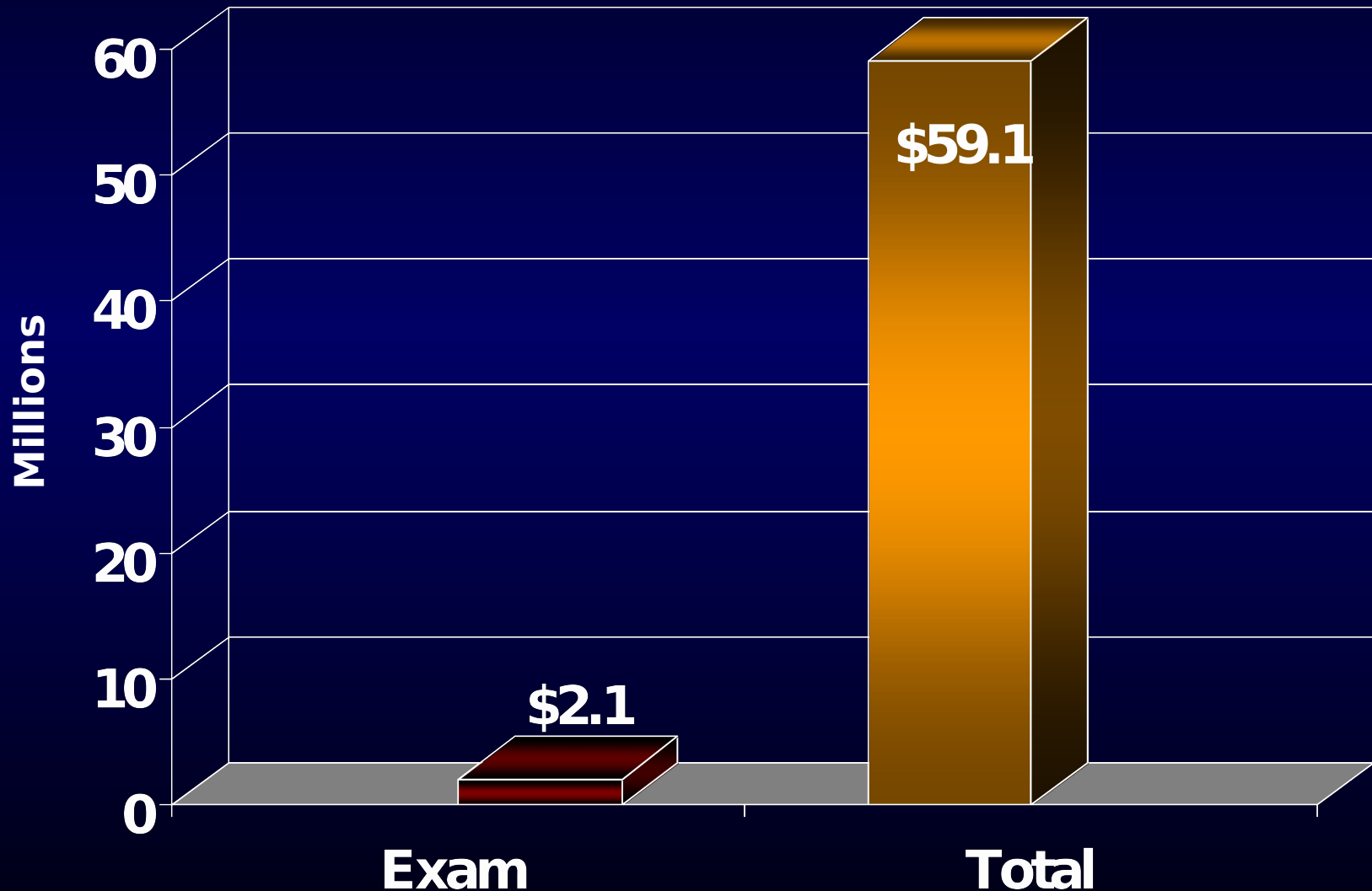
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# Dental Production in \$'s

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# Unmet Treatment Needs

- 1,119,000 DFC 2 procedures awaiting treatment
- 30,325 DFC 3 procedures awaiting treatment

# Issue to the Board

- 54,692 exams performed in one month
- 28% only needed a routine prophylaxis
  - Was this exam necessary?
- 3-5% were DFC 3 after exam
  - Should they have been examined sooner?
- Can we identify those at higher or lower risk and plan accordingly?

# Future initiatives

- AHLTA  
Armed Forces  
Health  
Longitudinal  
Technology  
Application
- Formerly CHCS II

# Proposed Solution

- Customized risk assessment algorithm
- Integration with AHLTA to automatically assign recall period based on risk
  - Low risk recall period two years?
  - Medium risk recall in one year?
  - High risk recall in six months?

# Discussion



COL David Moss

(703) 681-3031

david.moss@us.army.mil

Office of The Surgeon General

DASG-DC

5109 Leesburg Pike, Suite 682

Falls Church, VA 22041-3258